

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended): A thermal printer composed globally of a plurality of modules assembled together in an implicit reversible manner to enable, from a combination of modules, to provide a range of distinct printers, said printer associating:

a) a thermal printing head of a band conditioned into a roll, slaved to electronic means for controlling the operation thereof, which are fitted with associating means respectively with a source of electric energy, with general printing control means and with the thermal printing head,

b) means for conveying the band from a magazine holding the roll against the thermal printing head, said conveying means comprising motorised means for driving the band, a resilient back-up roll of the band against the printing head, and a cutter for the separation of a portion of printed band,

c) a first member carrying the band roll, in which member is provided the magazine rotatably housing the roll,

d) a second member carrying electronic control means, fitted with nesting means easily reversible with the first carrying member,

wherein the thermal printer comprises :

a) a first module formed mainly of a printing mechanism comprising a chassis-carrying the printing head, motorised means for driving the band, and of a flexible connector (8) for associating the printing mechanism with the electronic control means,

b) a second module mainly composed of the second carrying member, which supports on the one hand means for controlling the operation of the printer by the operator partaking of the general printing control means, and on the other hand the electronic control means as well as the means wherewith they are fitted for association with the source of electric energy, with remote control means partaking of the general printing control means, and with the driving means,

c) a third module mainly composed of the first carrying member, the latter being provided with general nesting means easily reversible on the one hand of the chassis partaking of the first module and on the other hand of the second carrying member partaking of the second module.

2. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 1,

wherein the second carrying member comprises a first support fitted with means co-operating with easily reversible first elementary nesting means installed on the first carrying member, said first support carrying the driving means as well as first electronic control means and related associating means.

3. (Currently amended): A printer according to claim 2,

wherein the second carrying member comprises moreover a second support [[.]] carrying second electronic control means and related associating means, substitutive of electronic control means and related associating means, said second support being fitted with means co-operating with easily reversible second elementary nesting means installed on the first carrying member,

said second electronic control means and the related associating means comprising means analogous to the first electronic control means and to the first related associating means, complemented by any at least management means specific to the source of electric energy, of specific electronic control means partaking of the general printing control means and of means for storing information transmitted remotely by the remote printing control means.

4. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 3,

wherein the second electronic control means comprise substitution alternative elementary electronic control means, which are supported by the second support, first elementary means of said second electronic control means being fitted with associating means with a stand-alone source of electric energy, while second elementary means of these second control means are fitted with associating means with the electric energy supply mains.

5. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 3,

wherein the second support is mainly composed of a nesting dummy cover easily reversible on the first carrying member, at the rear face of which cover and at the rear of the first carrying member, is added by easily reversible nesting an electronic board carrying the second electronic control means complemented by the related means.

6. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 5,

wherein the cover includes in the middle zone of its thickness a peripheral shoulder bearing flat against a panel.

7. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 6,  
which includes a rear closing shell against which rests the cover via its peripheral shoulder.

8. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 4, wherein the stand-alone source of electric energy comprises at least one battery carried by the rear face of the electronic board which moreover carries first elementary means of the second electronic control means and of the related associating means, said battery being housed in a space provided between the shell and the electronic board, the latter forming a separation wall for mechanic and electrostatic protection of the printing mechanisms and of the control means.

9. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 7, wherein the shell is fitted at its rear face with easily reversible nesting means with a base.

10. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 1, wherein the driving means comprise at least one pusher for implementing the motorised means for driving the band, and at least one pusher for implementing the printing mechanism, related to a means for visualising the operating state of the printer.

11. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 1, wherein the cutter is mounted in an easily reversible manner on the chassis of the first module.

12. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 1, wherein the back-up roll is mounted on the first carrying member of the third module.

13. (Currently amended): ~~An application of a~~ A printer according to claim 1, ~~which is to~~  
a basic printer, wherein ~~the basic printer comprises:~~

~~a) a first module formed mainly of a printing mechanism comprising a chassis carrying a printing head, motorised means (7) for driving the band, of a flexible connector for associating the printing mechanism with remote electronic control means, and of a cutter for separating a portion of printed band;~~

~~b) a second module mainly composed of a second carrying member, which supports in an easily reversible manner on the one hand means for controlling the operation of the printer, and on the other hand the electronic control means fitted with associating means with remote electronic control means, with a remote source of electric energy, and with the driving means;~~

~~e) a in the third module, the mainly composed of a first carrying member supporting in an easily reversible manner on the one hand the chassis partaking of the first module and a supports the back-up roll of the band against the printing head, and on the other hand the second carrying member partaking of the second module.~~

14. (Currently amended): ~~An application of a~~ A printer according to claim 1, which is to  
a panel printer, wherein the panel printer comprises :

~~a) a first module formed mainly of a printing mechanism comprising a chassis carrying a printing head, motorised means for driving the band, of a flexible connector for associating the printing mechanism with remote electronic control means, and of a cutter for separating a portion of printed band.~~

~~b) a second module mainly composed of a second carrying member, which supports in an easily reversible manner on the one hand means for controlling the operation of the printer by the operator and on the other hand the electronic control means fitted with associating means with remote electronic control means, with a remote source of electric energy and with the driving means,~~

~~c) a third module mainly composed of a first carrying member supporting in an easily reversible manner on the one hand the chassis partaking of the first module and a back-up roll of the band against the printing head, and on the other hand the second carrying member partaking of the second module,~~

~~d) a nesting dummy cover easily reversible on the first carrying member, which includes in the middle zone of its thickness a peripheral shoulder bearing flat against a panel.~~

15. (Currently amended): ~~An application of a~~ A printer according to claim 14, wherein  
claim 1 to a panel printer, wherein the panel printer comprises :

~~a) a first module formed mainly of a printing mechanism comprising a chassis carrying a printing head, motorised means for driving the band, of a flexible connector for associating the printing mechanism with remote electronic control means, and of a cutter for separating a portion of printed band,~~

~~b) a in the second module mainly composed of a second carrying member, which supports in an easily reversible manner on the one hand means for controlling the operation of the printer by the operator and on the other hand the electronic control means fitted with associating means with remote electronic printing control means, with a source of electric energy, and with the driving means, said, the electronic control means ~~being~~ is complemented by any at least management means specific to the source of electric energy, integrated electronic control means and means for storing information transmitted remotely by the remote printing control means,~~

~~c) a third module mainly composed of a first carrying member supporting in an easily reversible manner on the one hand the chassis partaking of the first module and a back-up roll of the band against the printing head, and on the other hand the second carrying member partaking of the second module,~~

~~d) a nesting dummy cover easily reversible on the first carrying member, which includes in the middle zone of its thickness a peripheral shoulder bearing flat against a panel.~~

16. (Currently amended): ~~An application of a~~ A printer according to claim 1, ~~which is to~~  
a portable printer, wherein ~~the portable printer comprises:~~

~~a) a first module formed mainly of a printing mechanism comprising a chassis carrying a printing head, motorised means (7) for driving the band, of a flexible connector for associating the printing mechanism with the remote electronic control means, and of a cutter for separating a portion of printed band,~~

~~b) a in the second module mainly composed of a second carrying member formed of a first support and of a second support, the first support carrying driving means for operating the printer by the user, the second support being arranged as a dummy cover and supporting in an easily reversible manner on the one hand a battery providing a source of electric energy, and on the other hand the electronic control means fitted with means for association with remote electronic control means, with a source of electric energy, and with the driving means, said, the electronic control means being is complemented by any at least management means specific of the source of electric energy, integrated electronic control means and means for storing information transmitted remotely by the remote printing control means,~~

~~e) a third module mainly composed of a first carrying member supporting in an easily reversible manner on the one hand the chassis partaking of the first module and a back-up roll of the band against the printing head, and on the other hand the first support and the second support forming the second carrying member,~~

~~d) and wherein the portable printer comprises a rear closing shell which can be added in an easily reversible manner on the second support (10), said shell providing a space for accommodating the battery between the rear face of the printer and a board carrying the~~



electronic means of the second module and of the battery, said board forming a separation wall with mechanical and electrostatic insulation.

17. (Currently amended): ~~An application of a~~ A printer according to claim 1 ~~to, which is~~  
an office printer, wherein ~~the office printer comprises:~~

a) ~~a first module formed mainly of a printing mechanism comprising a chassis carrying a printing sheet metal, motorised means for driving the band, of a flexible connector for associating the printing mechanism with the remote electronic control means, and of a cutter for separating a portion of printed band,~~

b) ~~a in the second module mainly composed of a second carrying member formed of a first support and of a second support, the first support carrying driving means for operating the printer by the user, the second support being arranged as a dummy cover and supporting in an easily reversible manner the electronic control means fitted with associating means with remote electronic printing control means, with a source of electric energy, and with the driving means, said, the electronic control means being is complemented by any at least of management means specific of the source of electric energy, of integrated electronic control means and of means for storing information transmitted remotely by the remote printing control means, the source of electric energy being a remote source-~~

e) ~~a third module mainly composed of a first carrying member supporting in an easily reversible manner on the one hand the chassis partaking of the first module and a back-up roll of the band against the printing head, and on the other hand the first support and the second support~~

~~forming the second carrying member,~~

~~d),~~

and wherein the office printer comprises a rear closing shell which can be added in an easily reversible manner on the second support.

18. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 5, wherein the stand-alone source of electric energy comprises at least one battery carried by the rear face of the electronic board which moreover carries first elementary means of the second electronic control means and of the related associating means, said battery being housed in a space provided between the shell and the electronic board, the latter forming a separation wall for mechanic and electrostatic protection of the printing mechanisms and of the control means.

19. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 7, wherein the stand-alone source of electric energy comprises at least one battery carried by the rear face of the electronic board which moreover carries first elementary means of the second electronic control means and of the related associating means, said battery being housed in a space provided between the shell and the electronic board, the latter forming a separation wall for mechanic and electrostatic protection of the printing mechanisms and of the control means.

20. (Previously presented): A printer according to claim 8, wherein the shell is fitted at its rear face with easily reversible nesting means with a base.